

SENATE, No. 541

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Senator ROBERT M. GORDON

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Beach, Cunningham, Allen, Bateman, Greenstein, T.Kean, Pennacchio, Vitale, Codey, Sarlo, Beck, Madden, Rice, Lesniak, O'Toole, Whelan, Gill, Singer, Stack, Holzapfel, Pou, Sacco, Scutari, Weinberg and P.Barnes, III

SYNOPSIS

The “Safe Playing Fields Act”; restricts use of lawn care pesticides at child care centers and certain schools.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/28/2014)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the use of lawn care pesticides at child care
2 centers and certain schools, and supplementing Title 13 of the
3 Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Safe
9 Playing Fields Act.”

10

11 2. As used in this act:

12 "Charter school" means a school established pursuant to
13 P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.).

14 "Child care center" means a child care center licensed pursuant
15 to the provisions of the “Child Care Center Licensing Act,”
16 P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).

17 "Lawn care pesticide" means any pesticide labeled, designed or
18 intended for use on lawns, gardens, turf or ornamental plants.

19 "Low impact pesticide" means a low impact pesticide as defined
20 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2002, c.117 (C.13:1F-21).

21 "Pesticide" means a pesticide as defined pursuant to section 3 of
22 P.L.2002, c.117 (C.13:1F-21) but shall not include a "low impact
23 pesticide."

24 "Playground" means a playground as defined pursuant to section
25 1 of P.L.1999, c.50 (C.52:27D-123.9).

26 "Recreational field" means an athletic playing field.

27 "School" means any public school or private school as defined in
28 N.J.S.18A:1-1.

29

30 3. a. No lawn care pesticide shall be applied on the grounds of
31 any child care center, including a playground or recreational field
32 located at the child care center, except that a lawn care pesticide
33 may be applied as an emergency response to eliminate an
34 immediate threat to human health. Such emergency shall be
35 determined by the chief executive or owner, as appropriate, of the
36 child care center.

37 b. No child enrolled at a child care center shall be permitted
38 access to a pesticide treated area for at least seven hours after the
39 application.

40 c. No later than one year after the effective date of this act, the
41 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the
42 Commissioner of Health, shall adopt rules and regulations in
43 accordance with the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968,
44 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), concerning pesticide application, record
45 keeping, and staff and parental notification procedures at child care
46 centers consistent with the goal of mitigating potential health risks
47 to young children by reducing or eliminating the use of pesticides,
48 and by first considering the use of low impact pesticides.

